PATENT

Appl. No. 10/688,797

Amdt. dated March 19, 2007

Reply to Office Action of Amendment Accompanying RCE

and Petition to Suspend Examination

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination and a Petition to Suspend Examination in the above-identified case. The Amendment cancels Claims 138 and 139, and adds Claim 140, which restates Claim 139 in independent form. No new matter is believed added by the Amendment, and Claims 67-137 and 140 are pending in the application.

## CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance was mailed for Claims 67-139 on February 20, 2007.

Applicants believe claims 67-137 remain in condition for allowance over the cited prior art, and new Claim 140, which restates previously allowed claim 139 in independent form, should also be in condition for allowance.

The Applicants have submitted a Petition to Suspend Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) in this case for three months to investigate a potential inventorship conflict. Upon completion of the investigation and termination of the suspension of action, the issuance of another Notice of Allowance, if appropriate, is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

/Eugene J. Bernard/ Eugene J. Bernard Reg. No. 42,320

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834 Tel: 303-571-4000 BHR:sfs 8909279794